

This is what your child is entitled to from birth-21

- special education
- speech/language services
- behavior management
- work training
- physical therapy
- community-based instruction
- occupational therapy

This is what your child is entitled to AFTER age 21



**Baltimore County
Commission on Disabilities**

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Please feel free to copy and distribute this brochure so that others may benefit from the information which it contains.

Available in alternative format upon request.

This organization is not affiliated with
Baltimore County Public Schools

**Baltimore County
Commission on Disabilities**



**When Your
Child Has a
Developmental
Disability...**

**A Guide For
Parents and
Caregivers**

► ...be sure you

☑ **complete an application for the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA).** Ask your child's IEP chairperson for an application, call DDA (410-234-8200) or download an application (<http://dda.dhmh.maryland.gov/SitePages/howtoapply.aspx>) Keep a copy of the application for your files and send the original to DDA. The date the application is received could be critical in determining whether your child is eligible for services in the future.

☑ **get information about Low Intensity Support Services.**

This is money from DDA that can be used for camp tuition, home modifications and other expenses related to your child's disability. Call DDA (410-234-8200, <http://dda.dhmh.maryland.gov/SitePages/home.aspx>).



☑ **plan for your child's future now.** The Resource Center for Families and Schools (410-887-5443) offers workshops on long-range financial and legal planning. "*Planning Now*," a reference for families, can be borrowed from the Resource Center and can be downloaded from www.md-council.org.

☑ **be sure that your child carries identification at all times.** Consider Medic Alert (1-888-633-4298, www.medicalert.org), iron-on clothing labels and/or a MD state ID card from the Motor Vehicle Administration (1-800-950-1682, www.mdot.state.md.us)



☑ **get information about respite care** so that you can get a break from the demands of parenting. Call Respite Care Services at the Arc Baltimore (410-296-2272, www.thearcbaltimore.org).

☑ **subscribe to "Leisure Resources,"** the newsletter of the Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks, Office of Therapeutic Services (410-887-5370). www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/recreation/programdivision/therapeutic/index.html

☑ **register your son with the Selective Service System when he turns 18** (www.sss.gov).



☑ **apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) when your child turns 18.** Call the Resource Center for Families and Schools (410-887-5443) for information on parent workshops about SSI. More information is available at <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi/>

☑ **apply for Medical Assistance when your child turns 18.** This is mandatory as part of the eligibility process for DDA-funded adult services. If your child receives SSI, Medical Assistance is provided; however, a separate application for MA must be completed. Call the Department of Social Services at 410-853-3000.

☑ **become a member of an advocacy group** that will represent your child as he moves into adulthood. Call the Resource Center for Families and Schools for a list of advocacy groups at 410-887-5443.

☑ **work on daily living skills at home** so that your child will be increasingly independent. Daily living skills translate into

employment skills as a child gets older.



☑ **celebrate all of the very special persons in your family!**

